

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, line 2 with the following paragraph:

To achieve genetic immunization with a live attenuated bacterial carrier three plasmids were used which are based on the commercially available plasmid pCMV $\beta$ . This plasmid contains the structural gene of  $\beta$ -gal under the control of the human cytomegalovirus (CMV) immediate early promoter and includes a splice donor and two splice acceptor sites in between the ~~promoter~~ promoter and the structural gene. For studies examining the efficiency of the immune response against pathogens the  ~~$\beta$ -gal~~  $\beta$ -gal gene was replaced by genes encoding two virulence factors of *Listeria monocytogenes*. A truncated gene encoding a non-hemolytic variant of listeriolysin (pCMVhly) from amino acid positions 26 to 482 and a truncated variant of the structural gene of the membrane protein ActA (pCMVactA) encoding amino acids 31 - 613 were used. *S. typhimurium aroA* strain SL7207 was transformed with these three plasmids and groups of mice were orally immunized by feeding  $10^8$  organisms to each mouse per immunization. This dose was found to be optimal (data not shown). The mice did not show any overt signs of illness using this immunization schedule.

Please delete the last paragraph on page 24.